THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) A high level coordination committee chaired by Hon'ble Minister called "Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change to coordinate National action for assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change" was constituted on 6th June, 2007. In the meeting held on 13th July 2007, it has been decided to prepare and finalise 'India's Climate Change Action Programme'.

(c) and (d) Funds required for implementing various measures outlined in the Action Programme are to be assessed by the concerned Ministries and Agencies at the time of actual implementation.

Status of funds under CAMPA

, 2696. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds that have been received by Forest Department from various sources against Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) during last five years;

(b) the amount of funds that have been spent by CAMPA for plantation and Green India Programmes during the last five years;

(c) the area that was covered for such plantation etc., the details thereof;

(d) whether the amount received was not spent; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (e) The Ad-hoc Body of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) is collecting funds from the State/Union Territory Governments received by them towards Compensatory Afforestation, Penal Compensatory Afforestation, Catchment Area Treatment Plan etc. while diverting the forest land for non-forestry purpose under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. So far, an amount of about Rs. 7,000 crores has been received. As the Ad-hoc CAMPA has not been authorized by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to release funds to the State/ UTs, no money has been utilized so far.

Project of Forest Development Agencies

2697. SHRI SfJRENDRA M. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is submitted by Government of Gujarat for the project of Forest Development Agencies of Gir (East) and Gir (West);

(b) if so, the amount of fund sanctioned for the project;

(c) the amount of fund released till date; and

(d) by when the remaining fund is expected to be released to State for carrying out the remaining work of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPYATHY): (a) Yes, Sir. Two project proposals seeking financial assistance under the National Afforestation Programme were submitted by the Government of Gujarat for the Forest Development Agency (FDA) projects respectively of Gir (East) and Gir (West).

(b) and (c) An amount of Rs. 57.48 lakhs and Rs. 51.18 lakhs has been sanctioned respectively for Gir (East) and Gir (West) FDA projects, out of which an amount of Rs. 46.00 lakhs and Rs. 41.00 lakhs have been released till date to the Forest Development Agencies of Gir (East) and Gir (West) respectively.

(d) Funds are released to FDA projects on receipt of appropriate proposals alongwith satisfactory utilization of the funds released earlier and other requisite documents like progress report, audit report etc. The release is further subject to availability of fund under the National Afforestation Programme Scheme during the financial year.

Cauvery eco-system

2698. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any comprehensive study on the damage caused by polluting industrial units to the Cauvery eco-system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to make the river pollution free?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Discharges from Industries are monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board as well as State Pollution Control Boards in accordance with the environmental laws. As per the information furnished by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, no indusry is discharging effluents into the river Cauvery in Karnataka. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) is monitoring the Cauvery River water quality at 16 locations under Monitoring of Indian National Aquatic Resources programme and 4 locations under the Global Environmental Monitoring System. In addition, TNPCB has sanctioned a project to study the Cauvery River water quality through colleges of reputed universities.

(c) As per the information available from the TNPCB, water intensive activities such as textile dyeing and tannery are located predominantly along the Cauvery river. In order to prevent the pollution of Cauvery river and its tributaries, the Honourable High Court of Madras ordered that all the tannery and textile dyeing units have to implement zero liquid discharge system comprising reverse osmosis plant with reject management for recovery and reuse of water and salt in their industrial processes. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has been monitoring the functional aspects of the said industries and necessary action is taken against erring industries in accordance with the law. Further, pollution abatement works in river Cauvery due to domestic sewage are implemented under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan. The Plan covers pollution abatement works in five towns of Karnataka and nine towns of Tamil Nadu.

Fishermen under the custody of Sri Lanka

2699. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of fishermen of Tamil Nadu who have been detained by the Sri Lankan authorities as of December, 2007;

(b) whether it is a fact that without any violation of the territorial waters, they are detained and ill-treated by the Sri Lankan Naval authorities;